

Remark

Claims 1-20 are hereby cancelled without prejudice. New claims 21-54 find support in the text of the specification, the original claims, and the drawings. No new matter is added by this amendment.

The specification has been amended to adopt the Examiner's suggestion that the present application is a continuation application.

In the previous Official Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-20 as unpatentable over the commonly owned U.S. Patent No. 6,117,165 ("'165 patent") to Becker, under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting. New claims 21-54 are patentably distinct and non-obvious in view of the claims in the '165 patent.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the above referenced application and allowance of the pending claims.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any required fee in connection with this paper to Deposit Account No. 23-1703.

Dated: Feb 13, 2002

Respectfully Submitted



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Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

A marked-up version of the paragraph replaced on page follows:

This application is a continuation ~~divisional~~ of application serial no. 09/094,402 filed on June 10, 1998 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,117,165).